E 357
.6
.W92

J. Avery

A

WORD

TO

FEDERALISTS

AND TO THOSE WHO LOVE THE

MEMORY

OF

WASHINGTON.

E357
.6
.W92

A WORD, &c.

"British Influence!" "French Influence!" War with England!" "War with France!" "our sea coast ravaged!" "the treasury exhausted!" "oppressive taxes!" forced contributions!" "our Liberties and Independence threatened!"

THESE are words which we daily hear. What do these things mean? Who is to blame? What are the real dangers? How are we to meet them?—Friends of Republican institutions! Real Patriots! 'tis time that you should make these inquiries.

Some men are yet living, who took part in the conflict, which freed us from England, and made us a nation. Some are yet living, who helped to form our excellent constitution, and that of the union. All who are living know, what benefits such forms of government may yield, when rightly administered.

When our conflict for freedom was past, we put at the head of our nation THE MAN who conducted our armies in the days of peril. We sent him companions and assistants from among those who fought by his side, and those who then served in the councils of the people.

National embarrassments disappeared. Public credit was restored. Confidence between man and man returned. Commerce revived. Our lands were cultivated. The fruits of our industry commanded their price. The young looked forward to rational and solid blessings. The middle-aged felt no fear, that their families would want cloathing or food. Declining years were comforted, and cheered. We had schools and easily supported them. Every man's offspring might aspire to the first offices of state, if nature and industry had given suitable powers. We worshipped God as conscience dictated. Taxes were light, and were easily paid.

We heard of the tumults, the commotions, the revolutions of Europe, but they did not extend to us. If com-

mercial men sometimes came in contact with those who made war, our rulers negotiated, or sent forth our infant navy, which insured respect, and commanded peace. While other nations were familiar with the wretchedness of warfare, *we were neutral.* Our farms gradually grew better. Our dwellings improved. Our villages became towns. The chief towns of the states were advancing to rivalry with ancient cities of Europe.

How is it now? The national councils are distracted by contests concerning European politics. We do not now ask whether our rulers are *American* in their politics, but whether they favor the *French* or the *English.*—In two years our revenue has suffered the annual LOSS OF NINE MILLIONS AND AN HALF OF DOLLARS. We are informed by Mr. Gallatin, *(a foreigner)* secretary of the treasury, that a loan of four millions is already necessary, notwithstanding the government have sold lands to the amount of THIRTY TWO MILLIONS OF DOLLARS. Is our commerce dead? Has our navy *disappeared* without meeting a foe? Have *a million and an half of dollars* been expended in building gun boats, which are not only useless, but subjects of derision? Besides THE SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS which *democratic Skinner* took from the state treasury, the United States have lost *above a million of dollars* by frauds of men whom *Jefferson* put in office. Are many places of honor, and profit, filled by foreigners and hirelings—by men who had no recommendation but a willingness, and a power to revile the conduct of our Patriots? Has every man whom WASHINGTON put in office, been dismissed without reason, and without excuse? Are our yeomanry, and our land holders, soon to be called upon to give up their hard earnings to support such measures, and such rulers?—What has become of the respect and honor rendered to that American character, which WASHINGTON *founded?* More properly, what has become of that character itself?—How fell we into this sad, this deplorable humiliation? Who are they who have brought these evils upon us?

Men of Massachusetts! Freemen! True Republicans! You reverence the forms of government under which you have been happy beyond example. You love rational lib-

erty. You abhor despotism. You wish to labor for *yourselves*, and not for *task-masters*.—Dismiss your prejudices. Pluck the beam from your eye. *Who are they* that have blasted the American name, palsied the national arm, and shaken the foundations of our Empire? Wretches, who like *Satan*, could not endure the glory, which beam-from *above* them. Men, who like him, envious, jealous, and malicious, would destroy the blessings which they could not create.

They began with calumnies and libels on WASHINGTON. Freneau, Bache, Callender, and Duane, were paid for libelling the *saviour of his country*. The measures which restored public credit, and private confidence, were denounced. Slanders were forged, and circulated against men, who risked their fortunes, and their lives, to make us free. The navy, and the military, were held up as instruments by which our chains were to be put on. Men, whose young families, whose property, whose daily bread depended on peace, and tranquility, were accused of plots to establish monarchy.

The men who did these deeds of shame, and of darkness, obtained their object. We were deluded. We withdrew our confidence. We changed our rulers. We see, we feel, and our children's children will *feel*, what has been done within the last *nine* years!

Look at the men in power, and their friends. Compare them with the men, who were in power, and with federalists.

Are the republicans *(as they call themselves)* more honest, more charitable, more capable, more religious, more moral, than federalists? Do they honour the Sabbath more? Are they better husbands, fathers, sons, or neighbours? Do we prefer them for jurymen, or for referees, or for agents in monied institutions? Do we prefer them for executors, and for guardians of our children? Have they had our welfare, or their own most at heart? Have they intended pure administation, and faithful service to the people; or hostility to federalists, and office for themselves? Are we wiser, richer, or *more safe*, than when WASHINGTON and his friends governed? If holding office were the only object of democrats, let them

have office. The federalists do not covet office. They ask only to be governed by the constitutions, and laws made agreeably to them. They ask that property, civil liberty, peace and freedom may be protected, and preserved. But our infatuated rulers are this moment plunging us in war. We are on the point of hostility with the only nation which can now injure us. We are rushing into the arms of the only nation, who has the disposition and the power to enslave us. At the distance of *three thousand miles* from Europe we are about to share in all its dreadful calamities.

It is with England that we must have war. It is with Napoleon that we must form alliance. *Why? Why?* we demand. The French and English are at war. They interrupt our commerce. They have taken our seamen. So was it in the days of WASHINGTON. But we went on as a nation, and grew rich and great. But "*an English ship attacked the Chesapeake.*" "*The King would not ratify Mr. Erskine's agreement.*" "*Mr. Jackson has insulted our government.*" The king of England has sent two ministers across the ocean to declare to us, that the attack on the Chesapeake was unauthorized and disavowed. The British never meant to take American citizens, but, in common with all other nations, they must exercise the right of taking their own. They have always been willing to release our citizens when known to be such, and to agree on a mode of distinguishing them from their own. Will christians, will men of honor, and honesty, persist in hostility, when atonement for wrongs is offered? The agreement with Erskine was so made, that England could not ratify it.—Would any man in his senses take a deed from one, acting as an attorney, without first knowing whether he had power to make a deed.—"But Jackson insulted the government." How did he insult the government? No honest man can justify Mr. Madison in that measure.—The attempt to impress the public mind, did not succeed. Even democrats are ashamed of this political manœuvre.

Admit that England has done us wrong; and that if she justified the acts of her inferior agents, war might be pro-

per, even though its end should be national ruin. But England offers to negociate, and be at Peace. Our government seems determined to provoke a war. Jefferson would not renew the treaty which Washington signed and approved. He would not submit to the senate, the treaty which his own ministers, *Pinckney* and *Munroe*, effected; and which those ministers considered as settling all our difficulties. He rejected and sent it back. When Jackson was dismissed, and without cause, Mr. Giles proposed, Congress passed, and Mr. Madison signed, a set of Resolutions, approving his own conduct. Let any man read these resolutions and judge for himself whether Mr. Madison and his friends, do or do not intend, to bring on a war.

Whatever wrongs and injuries Englishmen may have done to us, England well knows that France has done us far greater wrongs and injuries. *Our government do not resent these.* There are no complaints to Congress. The people of the United States are kept in profound ignorance of the correspondence with France.—The French have burnt our ships on the ocean. Have forbidden us to trade with England or her colonies. Have declared that we should not be *neutral.* Have imprisoned *whole crews* of ships *in dungeons;* have seized and confiscated American property, without the ceremony of a trial; and have now under sequestration millions of dollars belonging to our citizens. MR. MADISON SAYS NOTHING ! ! !—— Such determined hostility to England, such base partiality to France, must rouse the English to war, unless the people of New-England lift up their voices against it.

Mr. Madison, and his blind and submissive adherents pretend, that England seeks war with us.—Why ?—Does not she prefer our commerce, to our enmity ? If she wanted war, why have not her thousand ships swept our commerce from the face of the deep ? Why does she permit the American flag to float on the salt wave ? Why has she not laid our seaports under contribution ?—Why does she convoy and protect our commerce ? England wishes peace, and friendship, with the United States; she neither loves, fears, nor hates us. But in glancing over the desolation, which the French are spreading through the globe, she sees that the British Isles, and this western

world, alone remain unsubdued. 'Tis her interest to wish us well. 'Tis ours to wish her well. She would not add us to the number of her foes. It were madness in us to enlist against her.——England has resisted, and will continue to resist the destroyer of nations. Her power on the ocean equals Napoleon's on the land. She wages war in which there is no discharge. Her people *know* and *feel*, that peace can never revisit their shores, till the nations of the earth burst the shackles of *Napoleon*, or *Frenchmen* riot in *London*.

Does Mr. Madison say, *as Jefferson often did*, with delight and triumph, that England will soon be conquered by the French? That bankruptcy and revolution are near at hand?—If so, how is it that her power, her commerce, her revenue, her manufactures, are greater than at any former period of her existence? How is it that her subjects are industrious, cheerful, loyal and united? That her merchants are the bankers of the world; that even the subjects of *Napoleon* deposit their money in England for safety?

It is such a power as this, that Mr. Madison desires to make war with. The chief of a republic composed of husbandmen, of merchants, of mechanicks, unprepared for, and unused to war, demands of *a monarch*, wrestling with *Napoleon* for liberty and life, the concessions, and the punctilios, of equal powers, in times of tranquility and peace.

Already perhaps the power of England is let loose upon us.—Already we may be doomed to years of profitless and impoverishing war. When these sad scenes are passed, the same difficulties which now exist must remain to be settled, if we should then be *a free people*; for England cannot conquer us. Even Jefferson cannot hope to conquer England.

The evils of this war are ably and truly set forth, in the Resolutions passed by our Legislature. Yet taxes—privations—the loss of property and of lives are trifles when weighed against the effects of such a war. One effect must be *alliance with France*. Alliance with France must place us where it has placed *all other people*, who have been her allies.—Here is our danger. *Americans!* If we

should look on these things as they are, we should see ourselves placed like one who climbs in his sleep, to a place of frightful danger, from which his awakened powers can hardly rescue him.

Let us calmly and honestly look on the character of *these allies*. Let us judge of their conduct to us, by their conduct to others. If *Napoleon* ever hated one people more than another *it is us*.—He hates us because we are commercial. He hates us because we are republican. He despises us because we are pacific, and because we are deluded by his arts.

The French have half a million of men in arms, intoxicated with conquest, and the love of glory. They are guided by an individual whose genius and disposition, astonish, and awe mankind. His soldiers move with the regularity and certainty of a single body. He depends on them. They depend on him. They cannot be disbanded. They must subsist on plunder. He moves them from country to country, as we move our flocks from field to field. The population, the wealth, and the power of the continent of Europe *must be* at his command. Already he commands *fifty millions of people*. THEY ARE HIS, AS OUR FLOCKS ARE OURS.

He prepares the way for conquests by arts and perfidy, which shock even the basest heart. He sends his spies and his agents. They sing the praises of the great nation. They tell over the exploits, and the heroism of the French. They applaud the Emperor as the friend of liberty, and of the human race. They represent him as going forth to break the chains of tyranny, to regenerate the world. To restore nations to their freedom, and their happiness. *He is the friend of the liberty of the seas*. The friend of peace, of commerce, and the rights of man. They fasten on the sources of public sentiment and opinion. They lead to fear him and to hate his enemies. They lead the destined victims to connect their own welfare with the splendor and the glory, which surround his throne. He comes with his armies *to prove* the declarations of those whom he sent before. Have they told the truth? He demands unconditional submission. He strikes out of being those, who dare murmur against his will. The nation-

al wealth is his. The trophies and the emblems of former glory pass to *Paris* to increase his own. *The temples* of the MOST HIGH, give up their precious ornaments. Private dwellings are rifled. Wives and virgins are the prey of his soldiers. The subjugated country is raised to the honor of becoming part of the *grand Empire !*

Holland, lately a commercial and powerful *republic*, has sunk into a *military despotism* with a brother of Napoleon for its *king*. From the centre of Germany spreads an immense kingdom, where *Jerome*, another brother, rules with despotic sway. *Spain* that shed her blood, and exhausted her treasure, while she helped Bonaparte to conquer other people, became the victim of credulity and fraud, and now struggles, *but for a moment*, against the authority of *Joseph*, whom *Napoleon* crowned in her metropolis.

The brave republics of *Switzerland* and all the *Italian States* are already a part of the *great empire*. *Austria* and *Prussia* wait with tearful eye, and trembling heart, to be struck from the list of nations. *Denmark* and *Sweden* have sought safety in alliance, and are subdued, not by their *enemy*, but their *friend*. *Alexander* the Emperor of *Russia*, surrounded by *Frenchmen*, obeys the will of *Napoleon*. In a few more moons he will announce to his *mock legislature*, that he has planted his eagles on the walls of St. Petersburg.

When Frenchmen become our allies, they will pour in upon us, *to save us from British troops*, all their soldiers, who can escape the British fleet. They will come to us in the name of friendship ; and to protect us against our enemy. Open your arms, Americans ! to your great and good allies ! Frenchmen, dreadful in battle, are among you, as brothers.

ARE THEY COME ? Then, like *Spaniards*, harden your wrists, and your ancles for chains. Take leave of the dear delights of home. Frenchmen sit at the head of your tables. Your daughters, and your virgins, are taken to their arms. They send you, with their legions, to gain glory and renown. If you murmur, you will only be SHOT !

The French have long had their agents among us. They foment party divisions. They excite and animate

our hatred against England. They seize our prejudices. They set up their presses. They deceive the credulous. They corrupt the weak, and the needy.

They have already commenced the conquest of this country. Universal dominion is their design. They begin by treachery. They are not prodigal of blood, when corruption will do as well.

The secrecy of our rulers, their submission to France; the perfect knowledge which Napoleon has of what IS TO BE DONE by the American Cabinet; the unnecessary and most impolitic hostility to England; the cry of British gold, and British Influence, against every man, who says there is danger from the French; the open admiration of the "*republican*" *papers* of all the French conduct and character; the joy which is expressed, *in them*, when another, and another people pass under the yoke of *Napoleon*. The fervent pleasure with which they announce his victories; their reproaches of England; their apologies for France; their open demand of alliance with her—All these things too surely prove, that France already extends her empire to our land.

This is not all.—*That Duane*, who under the name of Jasper Dwight, dared to attack the conduct of WASHINGTON; a foreigner; the editor of a newspaper; the despotic ruler of the democracy of Pennsylvania; a Colonel, *by Jefferson's appointment*, in the American army, and one of the most profligate of men, lately published a selection of verses from the scriptures, by which he announces that "NAPOLEON IS OUR KING!"

Another printer in Baltimore, a foreigner too, and doubtless well rewarded for his services, coolly proposes in his newspaper, that the present system of government should cease; and that *Thomas Jefferson* with a council composed of a member from each State in the union, should be *President for life!!!* So began Bonaparte his rule in France.

Within a few days a French privateer has arrived at Baltimore from France, bringing a man, who passed as her captain. The vessel is gone. The *captain* remains. He takes a magnificent house; and commences a course of splendor. On his passage he was called "*the minister.*"

He is the visitor and companion of the *Smiths*,* and the friends of Jefferson and Madison. Who is this man? What minister is he? Why is he here?

Even this is not all.—*There is now a French Prince of the blood of Napoleon in or near the capital of the United States.* When Jerome, now King of Westphalia, was in Baltimore, he married an American lady. She went with him to France. She was not permitted to land there. She was divorced by a decree of the Emperor. She returned to America with her infant son. Lately she has been raised to the dignity of a French Duchess, and allowed a revenue of *thirty six thousand dollars a year. Her son is made a Prince of the House of Napoleon.* His governor, with a salary, suited to his high calling, is a *Frenchman;* and was lately an officer in the service of the United States.

Why is this boy made a prince in America? Why, being a prince, is he kept in America? Is he to rule in Europe, or rule over us? Is Mr. Jefferson to be President for life, to learn us how to obey the nephew of Napoleon! *He who laughs at these things, laughs like a maniac.* Already a motion has been made in the Senate of the union to amend the constitution, and prevent this prince from holding office under it. *When the French tiger springs upon us, as he did on Spain, he will not leap the wall of our* AMENDED *constitution!* Do these things startle us? Well, they may.

Did we toil, and fight, and strew our land with dead to make an empire for a Frenchman? Have our labors come to this? Are we free from England only to bend beneath the weight of French military despotism?

No—we will not submit. Up! Freemen from your slumbers! Let us swear to transmit our independence to our offspring. Let us not be deluded, nor dismayed by the cry of British Influence. If it be true that England fights the battles of America, in fighting her own; if the valor and the strength of England, stand between us and

* General Smith, (a warm democrat,) is Senator from Maryland. Robert Smith, Secretary of State, is his brother. General Smith's daughter, is the wife of the brother of the *Duchess.* This Duchess is daughter of a sister of General Smith's wife. The Duchess is connected by affinity with the family of Mr. Jefferson, and the Attorney General of Virginia. Wilkinson is the bosom friend of the Smiths. Burr was domesticated among them.

danger, God forbid! that we should arm to cut her sinews.

Let us call to office men, who look at England as she is, and at France as she is; and who would resist, to the last struggle, the dominion of either. Let us repose confidence in those, who delight in republican institutions; who reverence the graves of our warriors, and our statesmen, and love the fame of those who made us free; men who have ever been faithful to themselves and to the constitution. NOT *those who cripple our strength, diminish our population, waste our resources, and corrupt public morals;* but those who will build up our navy, train our citizens to arms, revive our commerce, replenish our treasury, and abhor that foreign politics should rule the councils of our country.

It is the enviable happiness of *Massachusetts* that such men are now its rulers. May every thing *dear* and *valuable* animate us to keep them in power!

So mild, jo just, so able, so constitutional has been the administration of *His Excellency* GOVERNOR GORE, that even the base spirit of democracy has hitherto found nothing to charge against him but the crime of visiting, and mixing among the people. Able, conscientious, and tolerant, he commands our respect, esteem, and confidence in all times. What then are his services worth to us, when the cunning chief of the French strives to blast us with a war, that he may the more easily number us, on the long list of his triumphs?

Of Mr. Gerry we would only ask how is he *now* entitled to our confidence? Compare his talents, his years, his dispositions, with those of Mr. GORE. During the last thirty years, the most we know of him is, that he was a zealous opposer of the Federal Constitution, and did all he could to prevent its adoption;—that when sent on a mission to France, with Marshall and Pinckney, he differed from those gentlemen, and continued in France long after they left it, very little to the benefit of himself or his country;—lastly, that he has been picked up, and laid down by the democrats just as suited their convenience.

We cannot but ask, with some emotion, what entitles *Mr. Gray* to displace his *Honor Lieutenant Governor*

COBB in the confidence of the people? Of Mr. Gray, all we know, or can know, is, that during our revolutionary contest he cautiously avoided taking any part, for or against us. He was lately a federalist—he is now a democrat. His instability and uncertainty are measured only by his wealth. His single pretension seems to be, that he *is rich*, and is excelled by no one in cool calculation of interest and of chances. But of GENERAL COBB we know with pride and pleasure, that his hair has whitened in the service of his country. His name stands high, and often highest, in the councils of his country. He fought by the side of Washington the battles that won our freedom. His heart is often warmed by the remembrance, that WASHINGTON loved him as a faithful and affectionate friend.

Come then, sons of Massachusetts! Let us truly value our place upon the globe. Our voice has been lately heard.* We trust, in the purity, and the righteousness of our motives, that *it is never heard in vain.* It has consecrated anew, as the *temple of liberty*, the place where our freemen met. We have to perform a solemn duty to ourselves, our country, our posterity, in the coming elections. It is every man's duty. Let no man say, "*I shall not be missed.*" "*I shall not be wanted.*" Our cause deserves, and surely has, the favouring regard of that ALMIGHTY BEING, *who searcheth the heart, and who will punish crimes.*

On the day of our exalted privilege, let us show by our zeal and our patriotism, that our eyes are opened, that the schemes of *Frenchmen* are defeated, that we are willing and able to be free.

* Massachusetts Resolutions.

W46

WERT
BOOKBINDING
Grantville Pa
Jan - Feb 1989